

CONSOLIDATED GAS DIVIDEND PAID BY EDISON CO. PROFIT

Electric Consumers Taxed for
"Coal Preferential" as Well
as Return on Gas Stock.

Every time a resident of Manhattan or the Bronx burned an electric light or heated an electric iron last year he added his mite toward paying dividends to holders of Consolidated Gas stock. This was virtually admitted by former Judge William L. Ransome, counsel for the Consolidated and Edison Companies, when he said the 3 per cent. extra dividend declared by the Edison was immediately converted into a 13-4 per cent. quarterly dividend for the Consolidated Gas.

Although many public utility boards have frowned upon the practice of making a profitable branch of a business pay for an allegedly unprofitable branch, the electric consumers, who are still paying a "coal preferential" because of a poverty plea by the Edison last year, were called upon to make good the alleged deficiency of income from gas consumers.

In September the Washington, D. C. Public Utility Board emphasized this in connection with a rate case of a company operating both a trolley line and an electric line, in which the trolley line was being operated at a loss. That body held it was unfair to tax the electric light consumers for the fares of streetcar passengers. Each utility, it was pointed out, must pay its own way.

At its regular monthly meeting the New York Edison Company declared an extra dividend out of its undivided surplus earnings of 2 per cent upon its capital stock, all of which is held by the Consolidated Gas Company to declare a dividend of \$1.75 a share on its capital stock, payable March 15, to stock of record Feb. 9.

According to the annual report of the Consolidated, dated Jan. 23, 1922, dividends were paid during 1921 at the rate of 7 per cent, amounting to \$7,000,000. This was despite a stated loss from the gas business of \$8,469,035.65, plus another alleged loss in 1920 of \$4,843,236.09. It is also stated that the 1921 dividends exceeded the net non-gas revenue by \$1,510,498.74. This, it is added, impaired the company's undistributed surplus earnings to the extent of \$10,000,000 in 1921 alone.

CAMDEN SEES BOOZE DESTROYED
Most of Camden turned out yesterday to watch their police pour 100 gallons of whiskey and gin into a sewer. Twelve gambling machines and eight copper stills were destroyed.

INVALID WIDOW DIES FIGHTING FIRE

Lighted Match Slips From Her Hand and Ignites Tablecloth and Curtain.

Mrs. Helen Rawley, sixty-four, a widow, was fatally burned when she attempted to extinguish blazing draperies in her home on the fourth floor of an apartment house at No. 116 Sherman Avenue last night. She died ten minutes after being taken to Columbus Hospital.

Mrs. Rawley, an invalid, lived with her brother, Harry Brownson. During his absence she went to the dining room and attempted to light the gas. The match slipped from her hand and set fire to a tablecloth and curtain. While trying to beat out the flames her clothing caught fire. Her screams brought neighbors, who tore the clothing from her. Patrol-

man Cobby poured sweet oil on Mrs. Rawley's burns while he awaited the ambulance. Firemen prevented the flames from extending further than the dining room.

MUSIC PRIX DE ROME CONTEST NOW OPEN

Rules Governing Competition Announced—Closing Date March 1.

The American Academy in Rome announced today that applicants for admission to the second competition for the Prix de Rome in musical composition are required to file with the Secretary of the academy not later than March 1 an application, along with letters of reference as to character, education and artistic ability. They must also file two compositions, one either for orchestra alone or in combination with a solo instrument and one for string quartet or for some ensemble combination, such as a sonata for violin and piano, a trio for

TOOK WALK IN NIGHTIE AND WITH BARE FEET

Mrs. Arline Johnson, thirty-three, No. 320 East 123d Street, was found wandering in bare feet early this morning at 125th Street and Lenox Avenue. She was wearing only a night gown and a bath robe. Patrolman McGrath of the West 123d Street station could get no clear statement from her and she was taken to Bellevue Hospital for observation. She was identified by her husband, Walter.

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Tak-hom-a Biscuit

The Sunshine Soda Cracker



When the table is cleared

That's when the crumbs are noticed.

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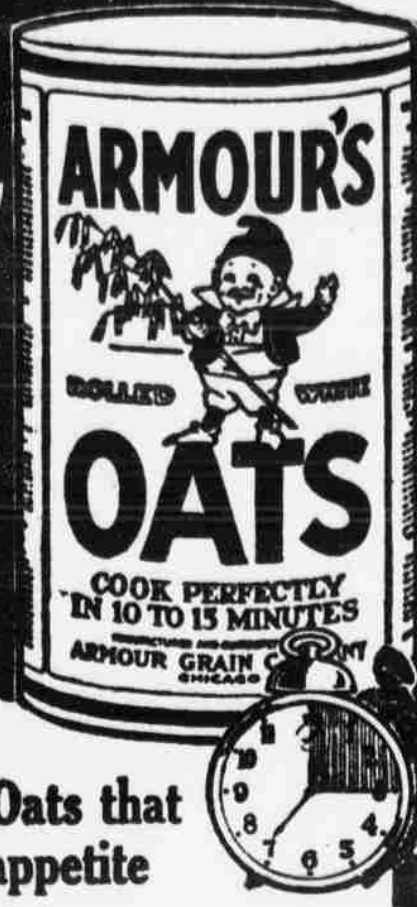
The neat housewife serves Tak-hom-a Biscuit with the soup, salad, and cheese.

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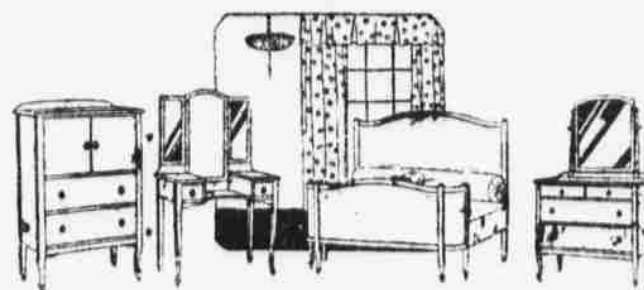
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